

San Francisco Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1872

Prof. Gray

Dear Sir

To-day I sent directed  
to Prof Sargent a Box of Trees & Shrubs and  
among them Garrya elliptica which together with  
the Yerns you speak of in letter of Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
were already mailed to before your letter came to  
hand - So much for good luck, or passing to the  
Credit of the good Genius that ever guides.

Among them are Castanopsis (I have here seen the of yours) / i.e. our  
Chestnut Oak of the Redwood - sorry I could not send  
Chrysothylis formerly Castanea Chrysothylis / It is  
often of the utmost difficulty to find seedlings of  
some trees where one would suppose they ought  
to abound - spent part of two days searching for  
Aesculus Californicus seedlings - gave it up the first  
day finally got 3 - mailed altogether with our  
Myrica shall try again - Azalea occidentalis  
is often equally difficult to get well proportioned &  
isolated etc - Garrya elliptica too old or  
decayed - wrote Sargent my faith in Cuttings  
it is already putting <sup>in</sup> here, the Male Cuttings in  
clusters 3 inches long already; will be in full glory  
here in Jan. at this rate / 2 or 3 of these /

*Protocera arbutifolia* seedlings are scarce (2).  
*Cornus Nuttallii* (rather scarce) - ought I to have  
sent you *Juncus brevifolia* Western Yew? Why  
cannot we transplant? If I tried grow will  
think I'll try it and at least be as foolish  
as other people - never like to be singular,  
*Ceanothus integerrimus* - very valuable for stock, increases  
cream 10 to 16 per cent. - Not an invaluable med. &c.  
*Chamaebatia foliolosa* - I promise myself to do  
something grand with this ere long. Wish I  
could have got *Sandromeda* - could, had  
I the time (but delays) will not do so late.  
First my *Microsiphon* again the sp. was in  
bloom got some tiny seedlings as I take  
them to be sent also some equivocal ones  
could not clearly determine in my own mind  
apart from the whether they might not prove  
*Iris Douglasii*? two I certainly know to be  
those I have labeled & put in july perche  
paper are all right. sent to host of  
*Micromeria Douglasii* such a prett. pendant  
for a hanging basket - do with my list as  
were your own & give it to an appreciative  
friend. *Aspidium* &c my reasons for sending  
*Ferns* was just simply because by a days or two  
delay I could fill up some blank space left  
in the tree packing so you see I have anticipated  
a little - now if there is no immediate call for

these just distribute them at discretion.  
The *Lycopus* we considered *Eurospus* var. *sinuatus*  
not *Virginicus* - will send you a sp. The decision  
of our Postmaster here is that no botanical sp. seed  
& not by snail or other not "Dist. sp." can be allowed  
a written name without involving letter postage!!  
the name however may be printed; otherwise a  
hieroglyphic mark, letter or fig. will be required  
& letter explanatory thereof accompanying through  
the letter box. This seems strange to the uninitiated  
- so contrary to our universal custom. It would  
be the most sensible construction of the law, to  
make no violation when none is intended  
the spirit of the law & not the mere letter.  
Sorry I did not send you all the roots of  
*Saxifraga* which I took the trouble to dig.  
- now wilted & shrunk up & thrown away  
- the considerable trouble for me to get them  
rather dirty work for one not exactly in  
the line of business.  
I omitted to state above that even the words  
"Roots" "Seeds" &c as quotations from the law itself  
subjects the paper to letter postage. You see  
I must be exceedingly circumspect in future!  
Perhaps I may go in search of some more  
*Roman zoffia* - shall have to hurry up, for  
they grow apace after the first showers  
*Georga elliptica* were mailed up ere your letter asking  
them came to hand. So *Dynopogon* - filled a nice niche  
you see.

If you succeed in reading all my scribbling  
I'll send you in the my remarks on Cal' bulls  
K. & G.

Accept my kindest thanks for the  
interest taken abroad.

Yours truly

A. Talbot

Prof. H. J. Rogers  
Cambridge  
Mass

P.S. My L. C. Box is changed by the L. M.  
Under recent reconstruction of our P. O.  
to "Box 2327" - please note.

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